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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/743,112	01/16/2001	Hiroshi Kamakura	108100	5773

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EXAMINER

BAUGH, APRIL L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/743,112

Applicant(s)

KAMAKURA ET AL.

Examiner

April L Baugh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20040719</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant amended claims 1-3, and 11-14 and added new claims 17-18, therefore claims 1-18 are now pending.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed July 19, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Ichimura does not teach meeting data that are stored in units based on corresponding units of supplied-data, each unit of meeting data being identified by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data. However it is the examiner's position that Ichimura teaches the above feature (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49 and Interview Summary Paper #15-8/23/04).

Ichimura teaches, "When the user-input data detection detects an input of pen data, the pen data is displayed on screen...display section displays handwriting PA and the string of speaker name SA. Second memory section receives a pen data as user-input data from user-input data detection section, data of a speaker name from state detector and audio image signals at the statement starting point ...these pieces of data are associated with each other and stored...". Therefore the supplier of the data is associated with the supplied data and thus stored.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by US Patent No. 5,894,306 to Ichimura.

Regarding claim 1, Ichimura teaches a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is reproduced, at least two of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data reproducing apparatus respectively (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49); a communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus; and a storage unit in which a generated image is stored and which is accessible by said another processing apparatus via said communication interface unit (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45), and each of said at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus and said another meeting data reproducing apparatus including said conversion unit and said communication interface unit reading a part of said meeting data from said storage unit

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and reproducing meeting data in a task-distributed fashion (column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38, lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 2, Ichimura teaches a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is generated, at least two of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data generating apparatus respectively (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), at least one meeting data generating apparatus comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be generated the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49);; a communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus; and a storage unit that stores generated meeting data, which is accessible by said another processing apparatus via said communication interface unit (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45), and each of said at least one meeting data generating apparatus and said another meeting data generating apparatus including said conversion unit and said communication interface unit reading a part of said meeting data from said storage unit and reproducing meeting data in a task-distributed fashion (column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38, lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 3, Ichimura teaches a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses

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interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is generated and reproduced (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), at least one of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data generating apparatus, at least one of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data reproducing apparatus, said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45) the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49); a communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus; said meeting data generating apparatus comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be generated; a communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus, at least one of said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising a storage unit in which a generated image is stored and which is accessible by said another processing apparatus via said communication interface unit, and said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus accessing said storage unit and generating and reproducing meeting data (column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38, lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 11, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a

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plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive, and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a virtual machine, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49), said information comprising: information for implementing a communication interface unit which allows said storage unit to be shared by other processing apparatuses (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45).

Regarding claim 12, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive, and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a virtual machine, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49), said information comprising: information for generating supplied-data in said common format; and information for transmitting said generated supplied-data to at least one of said processing apparatuses having storage unit accessible by the respective processing apparatuses (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45).

Regarding claim 13, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive,

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and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a virtual machine (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45), said information comprising: reading information for accessing at least one of said processing apparatuses having storage unit which stores said meeting data and which is accessible by the respective processing apparatuses to read said meeting data stored in said storage unit, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49); and reproducing information for reproducing read image data, said reading information comprising: information for generating supplied-data indicating a reading request and for converting said supplied-data into said common format; and information for transmitting said converted supplied-data to a processing apparatus having said storage unit to receive supplied-data including meeting data from said processing apparatus, said reproducing information comprising: information for implementing said virtual machine; and information for converting supplied-data using said virtual machine in accordance with the received supplied-data so as to reproduce the meeting data (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28 and column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38, lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 14, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive, and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a virtual machine (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), the meeting data being stored in units based on

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corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49), said information comprising: requesting information for requesting a particular service to another processing apparatus; providing information for providing a particular service to another processing apparatus, said requesting information comprising: information for generating supplied-data indicating a request and for said particular service and converting said supplied-data into said common format; and information for transmitting said converted supplied-data to a processing apparatus (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45), said providing information comprising: information for implementing said virtual machine; information for receiving supplied-data indicating a request for a service from another processing apparatus and converting supplied-data using said virtual machine; information for determining whether it is possible to provide said service in accordance with said converted supplied-data; and information for, if it is possible to provide said service, providing said service (column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38, lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 4, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3, said supplied-data comprising at least one of image data for displaying said meeting data and control data for controlling the displaying of said meeting data, said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising: a display unit that displays said meeting data in accordance with said image data; and a control unit that controls the displaying of said meeting data in accordance with said control data (column 4, lines 7-25 and column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column 10, line 62 through column 11, lines 6).

Regarding claim 5, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3, said processing apparatus comprising a server device, said supplied-data comprising a component object serving as a part of a program for generating said meeting data, and said meeting data generating apparatus generating said program for generating meeting data in accordance with received component object and generating said meeting data using said program (column 4, lines 7-25 and column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column 10, line 62 through column 11, lines 6).

Regarding claim 6, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3, said meeting data generating apparatus comprising data control unit that stores the supplied-data, converted by said conversion unit, in said storage unit in which particular presentation data is stored while said supplied-data is managed in units of supplied-data received from each of said processing apparatuses (column 8, lines 4-20 and 40-45), and reads meeting data including at least a part of said supplied-data and said presentation data from said storage unit in accordance with a reproduction command from each of said processing apparatuses, and said communication interface unit comprising a transmitting unit that transmits the read meeting data to said meeting data reproducing apparatus (column 4, lines 7-25 and column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column 10, line 62 through column 11, lines 6).

Regarding claim 7, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 6, said meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing said meeting data stored in said storage unit in units of data associated with said processing apparatus which supplies said supplied-data, in accordance with said reproduction command (column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 40-45 and column 38, lines 6-10 and 22-30).

Regarding claim 8, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 7, said meeting data generating apparatus comprising: an image-recording unit that records images of a meeting scene, and an image data unit that stores image data obtained as a result of the recording of images of the meeting scene in said storage unit as a part of said meeting data, in predetermined units of data, and said meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing said meeting data stored in said storage unit, in predetermined units of data in accordance with said reproduction command (column 1, lines 8-11 and 25-28 and column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26).

Regarding claim 9, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 8, at least one of said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising a projector (column 6, lines 40-49).

Regarding claim 10 and 16, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3 and 14, said transmission line comprising an IEEE-1394 bus (column 6, lines 50-55).

Regarding claim 15, Ichimura teaches the information storage medium according to claim 14, said supplied-data comprising at least one of meeting data, an object for generating meeting data, an object for controlling the generation of meeting data, an object for reproducing meeting data, and an object for controlling the reproduction of meeting data (column 4, lines 6-56).

Regarding claim 17, Ichimura teaches the meeting system of claim 1, at least two processing apparatuses being associated with at least two respective meeting participants, and each of the at least two processing apparatuses identifying a corresponding one of the at least two respective meeting participants (column 10, lines 37-43).

Regarding claim 18, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 1, the generated image being generated based on the meeting data, and each of the at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus and the another meeting data reproducing apparatus simultaneously displaying different parts of the generated image on different sub-area of a display area (column 11, lines 3-6).

Conclusion

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April L Baugh whose telephone number is 571-272-3877. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:30pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ALB



RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER